

BLUE RIDGE HIGH

2151 Fewes Chapel Rd.
Greer, South Carolina 29651

GRADES 9-12 High School

ENROLLMENT 980 Students

PRINCIPAL Kenneth G. southerlin 864-895-0130

SUPERINTENDENT Dr. William E. Harner 864-241-3456

BOARD CHAIR Tommie E. Reece 864-271-3619

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2003

ABSOLUTE RATING:

EXCELLENT

Absolute Ratings of High Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
17	5	0	0	0

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

EXCELLENT

The school's Improvement rating was raised one level because of substantial improvement in the achievement of students belonging to historically underachieving groups of students.

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

N/A

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:

WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM

WWW.SCEOC.ORG

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Good	Below Average	N/A
2002	Good	Unsatisfactory	N/A
2003	Excellent	Excellent	N/A
2004			

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	Our School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Passed all 3 subtests	76.4	70.4	75.1	75.8	74.5	74.0
Passed 2 subtests	13.2	18.5	17.2	14.2	14.6	14.6
Passed 1 subtest	7.7	9.0	2.9	7.0	7.2	7.0
Passed no subtests	2.7	2.1	4.8	2.9	3.7	3.7

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2003		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships*		Graduation Rate	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
All Students	209	95.7	193	13.5	206	90.3
Gender						
Male	96	97.9	96	14.6	112	83.0
Female	111	93.7	97	12.4	94	98.9
Race or Ethnic Group						
African American	11	100.0	10	0.0	9	99.0
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	3	I/S	3	I/S
White	195	95.4	179	14.5	193	89.1
Other	1	I/S	1	I/S	1	I/S
Disability Status						
Non-speech disabilities	1	I/S	15	0.0	20	55.0
Students without disabilities	208	95.7	178	14.6	186	94.1
Migrant Status						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-migrant	1	I/S	193	13.5	0	N/A
English Proficiency						
Limited English proficient	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-LEP	189	97.4	193	13.5	206	90.3
Lunch Status						
Subsidized meals	26	100.0	34	0.0	36	94.4
Full-pay meals	164	97.0	159	16.4	170	89.4

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIPS

Percent of	Our School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*	13.5	22.2
Seniors who met the SAT requirement	13.5	23.6
Seniors who met the grade point average	61.7	56.3

*Using only the SAT and grade point average requirements

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n= 980)				
Retention rate	8.0%	Down from 8.7%	7.3%	7.3%
Attendance rate	95.2%	Down from 95.9%	95.6%	95.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	12.3%	Up from 8.2%	9.3%	5.1%
With disabilities other than speech	12.7%	No change	10.3%	12.2%
Older than usual for grade	8.1%	Up from 7.8%	8.1%	10.1%
Suspended or expelled	0.3%	Down from 3.4%	2.2%	2.3%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	14.8%	N/A	N/A	10.2%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual dropout rate	2.2%	Down from 2.4%	2.8%	2.7%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	3.3%	Down from 4.8%	2.8%	3.2%
Enrollment in career/technology center courses	508	Up from 452	768	433
Students participating in worked-based experiences	1.6%	Down from 8.2%	24.7%	26.3%
Career/technology students mastering core competencies	78.7%	Up from 77.7%	77.0%	74.9%
Career/technology completers placed	100.0%	Up from 96.3%	100.0%	99.5%

Teachers (n= 56)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	55.4%	Down from 56.4%	54.7%	51.7%
Continuing contract teachers	89.3%	Down from 90.9%	83.6%	81.8%
Highly qualified teachers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Teachers returning from previous year	88.5%	Up from 87.8%	86.5%	85.1%
Teacher attendance rate	99.0%	Up from 98.7%	95.7%	95.8%
Average teacher salary	\$42,508	Up 3.4%	\$40,757	\$40,303
Prof. development days/teacher	6.2 days	Up from 5.6 days	8.5 days	10.3 days

School				
Principal's years at school	26.0	Up from 25.0	3.5	3.0
Student-teacher ratio	N/R	N/R	28.3 to 1	26.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	93.6%	Down from 94.2%	91.2%	90.1%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$5,063	Down 5.6%	\$5,498	\$6,279
Percent spent on teacher salaries*	58.3%	Up from 54.3%	58.3%	57.8%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Excellent	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	70.9%	Up from 67.7%	86.2%	87.8%
SACS accreditation	yes	N/A	yes	yes

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools	N/A	N/A
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data							
N/A	Not Applicable	N/C	Not Collected	N/R	Not Reported	I/S	Insufficient Sample

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Blue Ridge High Improvement Council met during the school year and evaluated school programs and student performance. The mission of the school was reviewed. The mission of the school is to offer each student interdisciplinary experiences that develop the students' intellectual, social, physical, creative and technological potential in a safe environment.

Improvement strategies have been developed and are on-going. These efforts include a revised SAT Improvement Plan, an After School Tutorial Program, remediation for the Exit Exam, and a rigorous academic program with a broad selection of course offerings.

In addition to a strong academic program a very successful Fine Arts program continues with Band, Chorus, Orchestra and Drama. The Band, Chorus and Orchestra are rated consistently Superior in competition. The Band placed first in the state 2002-2003 AA Competition. A very competitive comprehensive athletic program has been high successful during the 2002-2003 school year with state championships in Golf and Competitive Cheer. One unusually strong area in the curriculum is foreign language, with four languages and four levels of each.

Blue Ridge High School will be expanded and renovated during the next two years to accommodate the growth in the community. Blue Ridge High School continues to foster a climate where all students can succeed in an advocating, nurturing and sustaining positive climate.

Students, parents, and staff continue to feel good about their school and continue to seek ways for improvement.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students	Parents
Number of surveys returned	55	160	25
Percent satisfied with learning environment	90.7%	78.8%	92.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	94.2%	86.7%	62.5%
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	81.1%	86.8%	87.5%

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specified that the statewide target is met for all students and for each subgroup of students: racial/ethnic, economic, disability, limited English proficiency and migrant status.